

**SPECIAL
ELECTION ISSUE**
Watch for the regular
May/June issue—coming soon!

Sheffield TIMES

Town meeting:
May 2, 7PM
Town election:
May 9, 7AM-7PM

Community News for Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA SECOND GENERATION Special Election Supplement **APRIL 2011**

SHEFFIELD'S 2011 ELECTION & TOWN MEETING

With Sheffield's annual Town Meeting on Monday, May 2, residents have a chance to participate in a New England tradition and experience American democracy first hand. Only registered voters can vote at the meeting, but all are welcome. The meeting will take place at the auditorium at Mt. Everett Regional High School at 7pm.

In the Town Election to be held on May 9, there is only one contested race on the ballot. Jane Nye and John Wightman are vying for the one open seat as Library Trustee. Incumbent

Kathy Ness declined to run for another term.

Every year, one of the three positions on Sheffield's Board of Selectmen is up for election. This year, it's the seat now held by Julie Hannum, who is running unopposed.

Other positions to be voted on are Town Moderator, where Bruce Person is again running unopposed. One position on the Planning Board must be filled by a write-in candidate, since no one filed papers in time to be on the ballot.

Continued on page 2

NEW PLACE TO VOTE!

The polling location this year will be the new Senior Center, 25 Cook Rd., off Route 7 behind the American Legion



Hall. Polling hours are the same, 7am to 7pm. The location change was necessary due to mechanical issues with the Town Hall elevator. The Senior Center complies with all state election accessibility standards. If you have questions, call the Town Clerk's office at 229-2000 x151.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

To the Constables of the Town of Sheffield in said County of Berkshire,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the auditorium of the Mount Everett Regional High School on Berkshire School Road in Sheffield on Monday, May 2, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. for the following purposes:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, such sums of money as listed below, and as may be amended, necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2012, or take any other action relative thereto.

Moderator	\$ 210	Police Department	\$430,460	American Legion	\$ 500
Selectmen's Office	\$163,870	Fire Department	\$ 43,899	Care of Soldiers' Graves	\$ 1,400
Board of Assessors	\$ 94,227	Inspectional Services	\$ 45,024	Ashley Falls Historic Dist. Comm.	\$ 100
Treasurer/Collector	\$151,319	Fire Hydrants	\$ 14,000	Agricultural Commission	\$ 250
Town Clerk	\$ 56,753	Animal Control	\$ 8,700	Interest on Loans	\$ 1
Elections & Registration	\$ 20,850	Highway Department	\$579,150	Berkshire County Retirement	\$174,500
Conservation Commission	\$ 7,158	Streetlights	\$ 11,750	Worker's Compensation	\$ 18,500
Planning Board	\$ 11,354	Board of Health	\$ 14,928	Unemployment Comp. Fund	\$ 1
Economic Development Comm.	\$ 500	Visiting Nurse Association	\$ 3,096	Group Health (32B) Insurance	\$336,000
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 2,035	Council on Aging	\$ 40,275	Employer Medicare	\$ 21,000
Town Buildings & Grounds	\$126,150	Veterans Benefits	\$ 24,000	Financial Audit	\$ 12,000
Town Report & Communications	\$ 7,000	Library	\$158,900	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 69,000
Legal Services	\$ 11,500	Historical Commission	\$ 100		
Dispatch Services	\$ 8,065	Memorial Day	\$ 750		

Continued on page 3

Advertise in a hometown paper!

The Sheffield Times
accepts advertisements from...

- Sheffield businesses
- Sheffield residents
- Regional businesses
that benefit Sheffield

No editorial or political advertisements

Contact Tara White

at 229-7754 or

sheffielddtimes@hotmail.com

for rates and information

Sheffield TIMES

Community Newsletter for
Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA

Editors: Kathy Orlando & Andrea Scott

Layout: Andrea Scott

Advertising Sales: Tara White

Distribution: Trudy Weaver Miller

Staff: Sandy & Dale Alden, Rae Eastman,
Gillian Hettinger, Ellen Rowntree, Peter
Rowntree, Judy Schumer, Ellen Weiss,
Barbara West, John Wightman

Published by

The Sheffield Association

P.O. Box 1339

Sheffield, MA 01257

sheffielddtimes@hotmail.com

www.sheffielddtimes.org

and on Facebook: Sheffield Times

Working since 2001 to foster communication
among the people, businesses and organizations
of Sheffield and Ashley Falls

*This special edition is mailed to all in Sheffield as a
public service by the Sheffield Association.*

HIGHLIGHTS, continued from page 1

Profiles and pictures of the candidates, written and compiled by the *Sheffield Times* as a public service, can be found on pages 6 and 7.

In addition to the candidates, there are two questions on the ballot: one to override the Proposition 2½ due to the size of the school budget, and the other to allow a \$3 million bond issue for school improvements and equipment.

Warrant highlights

Much of this year's warrant covers familiar ground. Every year, funds must be appropriated to meet Town needs for the coming fiscal year (Articles 1 and 2). The request for Fiscal Year 2012, which begins July 1, would increase the overall operating budget by 1.7 percent. (For a more detailed look at the budget, see the Town's website at www.sheffieldma.gov.)

Most amounts requested for town departments and expenses are identical or only slightly higher than what they were in FY 2011. The amount budgeted for Inspectional Services is down by some \$30,000, because the hours of the building inspector have been reduced from 35 to 28 per week, reflecting a slowdown in building. In addition, the town is looking to set up plumbing, gas, electrical, fire safety and health inspections so they are self-supporting, using inspection fees in a revolving fund (Article 26).

Most of the increases for "Town Buildings & Grounds" and the Highway Dept. reflect expected increases in fuel costs. Health insurance for town employees is expected to go up, by \$16,000.

School-related articles

Per last year's agreement among the five towns in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District — Alford, Egremont, Monterey, New Marlborough and Sheffield — Sheffield now pays about 50 percent of the District's operating and capital budgets. The school's operating budget for FY12 is up 5.7 percent, which increases Sheffield's share — \$5,895,155 — enough to necessitate a Proposition 2½ override (Article 4 on the warrant and Question 1 on the ballot). Sheffield's share of the capital budget is \$65,547 (Article 5).

In addition, the School Committee has requested a bond issue for \$3 million, to be paid off in 12 years, to pay for renovations and equipment. (Article 6

and Question 2.) The Sheffield Board of Selectmen as of press time had not decided whether to recommend approval to Sheffield voters. Voters of all five towns must approve the measure.

Town improvements and equipment

The town is asking for \$75,000 to buy a new truck for the Highway Dept. (Article 19). Other equipment in the articles: \$40,000 for a new police cruiser (Article 20), \$16,000 for Jaws of Life and radios for the Fire Dept. (Article 16) and \$7,000 for defibrillators for town buildings (Article 18). The septic system at the Library needs repair, for which \$30,000 is being asked (Article 21), and the elevator in Town Hall needs replacement, for \$75,000 (Article 27). Another \$25,000 for repairs to town buildings is being requested (Article 25), increased from the usual \$15,000 after melting snows revealed the poor shape of the Library parking lot.

The warrant includes \$8,000 for technology items (computers, software and such; Article 22), and \$6,500 is being requested so software can be purchased that will allow building and other permits to be tracked online (Article 23). The town is again asking for \$4,500 to preserve historical documents in the Town Clerk's office (Article 24). The preservation effort of records that go back to the founding of the town started last year.

Zoning by-law changes

The Housing Commission, working with the Planning Board, has asked for a zoning by-law change to allow accessory apartments in the rural and center village districts as in the other districts (Article 31). One such apartment would be allowed per property, and the apartments would be limited in size and confined to properties whose owners live on site.

Article 32 gives the Zoning Board of Appeals the same criteria for approving special permits as other town boards have.

Other items

By petition, the hotel/motel tax is again on the warrant (Article 28). Article 29 regularizes the arrangement between Sheffield Kiwanis and the town over the Kiwanis-built shed in the Town Park. And Article 30 expands the Council on Aging to 11 members, which would give room to all who have expressed interest in serving.

TOWN WARRANT, continued from page 1

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of the following elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2012, as required by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws; Moderator, \$210; Selectmen, Chairman \$2,311; Selectmen, two members at \$1,999 each, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Regional Agreement Establishing the Southern Berkshire Regional School District to read in its entirety as set forth in the document titled "Regional Agreement Establishing the Southern Berkshire Regional School District" and submitted by the Egremont Select Board, which document is posted in the Town Clerk's office and is available for review in the Town Clerk's and Selectmen's offices, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating and Transportation Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 and vote to raise and appropriate \$5,895,155 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget, said appropriation to be contingent on the passage of a Proposition 2½ override in the amount of \$98,000, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 and vote to raise and appropriate \$65,547 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to express approval of debt in the amount of \$3,000,000, authorized by the School Committee of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District on January 27, 2011 to pay for planned renovations and improvements to District buildings and for necessary equipment purchases for those buildings pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 71, Section 16(d) of the General Laws, said approval to be contingent on the passage of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion for the Town's share of said debt, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$55,000 to pay for vocational education tuition in Fiscal Year 2012, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the disposal and management of solid waste, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the appointment of members of the Board of Selectmen to any office or position under their supervision at no additional compensation in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 268A, Section 21A of the General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health to employ any of its members as Title 5 and Perc Test Witnesses for Septic System Inspections, Sanitation Inspections, and Public Health Nurse Services for Fiscal Year 2012 at rates and salaries to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from Overlay Surplus, and/or transfer from available funds, \$72,000 to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws, known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to sell, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, any parcel or parcels of real estate which have been or may be acquired through the foreclosure of tax title, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$27,053 to pay principal and interest on the bonded indebtedness authorized by Town Meeting vote of January 30, 1995, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$750 to the Emergency Response Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$16,000 to purchase Jaws of Life equipment and radios for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$25,000 to compensate firefighters for training, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$7,000 to purchase new defibrillators for the Town Hall, Library, Highway Garage and Senior Center, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$75,000 to purchase and equip a new 17,000 GVW truck for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$40,000 to purchase and equip a new four wheel drive police cruiser for the Police Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$30,000 for repairs to the septic system at the Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

Continued on page 4

TOWN WARRANT, continued from page 3

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$8,000 to purchase up to date information technology hardware, software, and services, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$6,500 to purchase building permitting software and/or services to enable the issuance and tracking of building and other related permits online, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$4,500 to preserve Town historical documents in the Town Clerk's office, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$25,000 for Town building repairs and improvements to include the Town Hall, Library, and Police Station, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the use of the following revolving funds for departmental operations which shall not exceed the noted sums for each fund, which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately, and to which shall be credited only the receipts received in connection with the departmental operations supported by the revolving fund; further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend from such funds in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ of the General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for the revolving funds shall not exceed the receipts for said fund:

Plumbing Inspector	\$10,000
Gas Inspector	\$10,000
Electrical Inspector	\$10,000
Fire Safety Inspector	\$10,000
Board of Health	\$15,000

, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$75,000 for repairs and replacement of the Town Hall Elevator, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 28: (By Petition) To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 64G, Section 3A of the General Laws which will authorize the collection of a local excise tax upon the transfer of occupancy of any room or rooms in a bed and breakfast establishment, hotel, lodging house or motel by any operator at a rate of four per cent (4%) of the total amount of rent for each such occupancy, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease, not to exceed 30 years, under terms and conditions to be determined by them, with the Sheffield Kiwanis Club for use and maintenance of the storage building located in the Town Park, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to expand the mem-

bership on the Council on Aging to eleven (11) members as provided by Chapter 40, Section 8B of the General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-laws as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

1. Add the following new Section 3.2.9 Accessory Apartments:

3.2.9 Accessory Apartments

3.2.9.1 Purpose.

Add moderately priced rental units, including workforce housing, to the housing stock of the Town.

Provide homeowners with a means of obtaining rental income, companionship, security and/or services, thereby enabling them to stay more comfortably in their homes.

Protect property values and the single family residential character of neighborhoods by ensuring that accessory apartments are permitted by Special Permit only on owner occupied premises.

3.2.9.2 Accessory Apartments in the Rural District. An accessory apartment may be permitted by Special Permit from the Planning Board, as an accessory use in the Rural District only where the principal use of the lot is an owner occupied single-family dwelling, bed and breakfast establishment, guesthouse, or inn, provided the standards set forth in Section 3.2.9.4 and Sections 9.4 and 9.5 are met.

3.2.9.3 Accessory Apartments in the Village Center District. An accessory apartment may be permitted by Special Permit from the Planning Board, as an accessory use in the Village Center District only where the principal use of the lot is an owner occupied single family dwelling, provided the standards set forth in Section 3.2.9.4 and Sections 9.4 and 9.5 are met.

3.2.9.4 Accessory Apartment Standards.

An accessory apartment shall only be constructed within an existing principal building or structure, an existing attached accessory building or structure, or an existing detached accessory building or structure.

Only one accessory apartment shall be permitted on a lot.

The gross floor area of an accessory apartment constructed within a principal building or structure shall not exceed forty percent (40%) of the gross floor area of the principal building or structure, not including a garage or detached buildings, or 800 square feet, whichever is less. The gross floor area of an accessory apartment constructed within an accessory building or structure shall not exceed 800 square feet. The gross floor area of an accessory apartment shall not be less than 300 square feet, even if this exceeds the maximum requirement above. The principal dwelling unit shall not be reduced to less than 300 square feet.

The owner of the lot must occupy either the accessory apartment or the principal dwelling unit. Prior to the issuance of a Special Permit for an accessory apartment, the owner of the lot must submit a notarized affidavit certifying occupancy of either the accessory apartment or the principal dwelling unit.

When a structure, which has received a Special Permit for an accessory apartment, is conveyed, the new owners, if they wish to continue to exercise the Special Permit, must within thirty (30) days of the conveyance, submit a notarized affidavit to the Building Inspector stating continued occupancy of either the accessory apartment or the principal dwelling unit. Failure to submit a notarized affidavit within thirty (30) days from the date of conveyance shall result in the lapse of the Special Permit.

The principal or accessory structure or building that will contain an

accessory apartment shall not be enlarged or extended in connection with the construction or modification of an accessory apartment, except for minimal additions necessary to comply with building, safety or health codes, or to create or enclose an entryway or stairway.

All parking for the occupant(s) of an accessory apartment shall be off-street. The Planning Board may require a minimum and/or set a maximum number of off-street parking spaces and impose other conditions to ensure the availability of adequate off-street parking which is in keeping with the character of the neighborhood.

An accessory apartment shall meet all applicable standards of the State Building Code (780 CMR) and the State Environmental Code, Title V (310 CMR 15.00) and subsequent revisions thereof.

3.2.9.5 Recording of Special Permit for Accessory Apartment. Every Special Permit issued for an accessory apartment shall contain the following condition: No Building Permit shall be issued for the accessory apartment until evidence of the recording of the Special Permit, in accordance with MGL c. 40A § 11, has been provided to the Building Inspector.

2 Add the following definitions to Section 10 under Dwelling:

Accessory apartment: A second dwelling unit located within the principal building or structure, or an accessory building or structure that is subordinate to the principal dwelling unit.

Principal building or structure: A building or structure in which the principal use of the lot takes place.

3. Add the following to Section 3.3.1.G Table of Use Regulations and renumber as required:

Principal Use	District				Notes
	R	VC	C	GB	
G. Accessory Uses					
3. Accessory Apartment	PB	PB	N*	N*	Refer to Section 10, definitions. Refer to Section 3.2.9. Refer to Section 9.4 for Special Permit Requirements. *Refer to Section 10, definition of dwelling for the allowance of accessory single family dwelling units in these districts.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

1. Add the following language to the beginning of Section 9.4.2.2 Decision: "For Special Permits issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals or..."
2. Delete Section 9.4.2.1 Special Permit Granting Authority, The Zoning Board of Appeals in its entirety and renumber as required.

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town elections, to meet in the Senior Center on 25 Cook Road in Sheffield on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 7:00 AM then and there to bring in their votes for the election of the following Town officers:

- One Moderator for one year
- One Library Trustee for three years
- One Selectmen for three years
- One Planning Board member for three years

And to decide on the following questions:

Question No. 1:

"Shall the Town of Sheffield be allowed to assess an additional \$98,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating Budget Assessment for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011?"

Yes _____ No _____

Question No. 2:

"Shall the Town of Sheffield be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's share of the bond authorized by the School Committee of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District on January 27, 2011 for capital improvements and purchases?"

Yes _____ No _____

All of said officers to be voted for on the official ballots furnished at the polls. The polls will be opened at 7:00 AM and closed at 7:00 PM.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy in seven public places in the Town, not less than seven days before the date of said meeting.

Hereof Fail not, and make return of this Warrant to the Town Clerk, with your doings thereon, at or before the time of said meeting. Given under our hands and the Seal of the Town of Sheffield this nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Eleven.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Julie M. Hannum Rene C. Wood David A. Smith, Jr.

PROFILES OF CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OFFICES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Term: Three years

Seats open: One

Julie Hannum

Julie Markham Hannum is running unopposed for a third term on the Board of Selectmen.

Julie is a life-long resident of Sheffield. Married to Steve Hannum for 30 years, she has two children, Philip, who will graduate from Rochester Institute of Technology this spring, and Robin, who presently works at Michigan State University. Julie graduated from Westfield State College and received a Masters in Education from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. She is employed as a Program Director for Berkshire Community College, developing student success projects among county high schools, BCC and local businesses.

Julie has long been active in the community. Previously, she served as trustee for the Bushnell-Sage Library Board for 13 years, 11 of them as its chair. A former trustee and moderator at Old Parish Church, she was also a long-time member of the Sheffield Grange.

Julie is registered as unenrolled. She is

seeking a third term to continue her effort to make a difference in town government. As a selectman, she has been involved in numerous school discussions, collective bargaining and cable negotiations as well as other ad hoc committee work. She says, "While the Board focuses much of its time ensuring that regular town operations and management proceed



smoothly, there are always new projects and initiatives before us that keep the town moving forward. Our town employees and volunteer board and committee

members work very hard to keep the town running efficiently and in a professional manner. It's a pleasure to work with so many dedicated people. Serving the Town is a great way to give back to the community that I have always called home. I am humbled by the prospects of a third term."

Julie says that the town has made

great progress over the last few years. She is excited that the five towns of the SBRSD have accepted a new regional agreement. The new Senior Center is completed, with final touches and landscaping to be finished this spring. She offers kudos to the Sheffield Hose Company for its expansion project that provides home to the new town-purchased tanker that will roll out for its first Memorial Day Parade in a few weeks. Covered Bridge River Park, with its new public canoe/kayak access area to the Housatonic River will be dedicated on May 7. (It was funded by a Natural Resources Damages Fund grant as part of GE's restoration settlement.) A new contract with Time-Warner that includes a comprehensive Internet accessibility plan is due soon. "Soon it will be time to formally revisit and update the Town's Master Plan, and I think we will be very pleased with our assessment," she says.

The biggest challenges that Julie identifies for the future are the continuing effort to balance the town's ability to maintain and enhance services while minimizing property tax increases and finding a new home for the Highway Dept.

PLANNING BOARD

Term: Three years

Seats open: One

No candidate filed papers in time to be on the ballot to fill the one Planning Board seat that is open due to Tim Fulco's term expiring. (Another vacancy on the board is expected when Chris Tomich formally resigns; the remaining year in that term will be filled through appointment.)

The open seat to be voted on can be filled through write-ins. According to Massachusetts election law, if a person received at least five write-in votes, that person can be elected to a town position.

As of press time for this issue, at least one person—James Collingwood, Jr.—was known to be running for this position as a write-in.

Jim Collingwood was born and raised in Sheffield. He is president of JTC & Sons Trucking.

TOWN MODERATOR

Term: One year

Seats open: One

Bruce Person

Bruce Person has served as Sheffield's Town Moderator for the last 22 years



and is running unopposed.

Born in Meriden, CT, Bruce graduated from the University of Connecticut at Storrs in 1965 and Tufts University School of Dental

Medicine in 1969. He came to Sheffield in 1971 after serving in the Air Force for two years and has lived here ever

since. He practiced dentistry in Great Barrington for 33 years and is now retired. Dr. Person served as Chairman of the Berkshire District Dental society. He has two adult sons and four grandchildren.

He is a registered Republican.

In addition to serving as Moderator, Bruce is also Town Constable, a former chairman of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee and trustee of Berkshire School. He was also very involved with the Great Barrington Rotary Club, receiving the Paul Harris Fellow award, and was a founder and long-time chairman of its Student Assistance Fund.

Bruce looks forward to the Town's Annual Meeting. He attempts to moderate it in a non-confrontational way, respecting all opinions. "It is my aim," he said, "that everyone goes home friends."

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Term: Three years

Seats open: One

Jane Nye

Jane Nye is running for Bushnell-Sage Library trustee.

Jane came to Sheffield when she married long-time resident Christopher Nye. Now retired, she had been the owner of Writ'n Wisdom, a bookstore in Pittsburgh, her hometown. Her first bookstore

was in Saxonburg, north of Pittsburgh. Jane has a daughter who lives with her husband and daughter in Edison, NJ.

Jane has had a love affair with the written word since high

school, where she served as editor of a prize-winning school paper. Her work experience includes a stint as assistant to the executive director of the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard and editorial assistant to the editor of the New England Journal of Medicine. When she returned to Pittsburgh, she was appointed director of continuing medical education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Jane's volunteer service includes membership on the boards of a residential

treatment center for children and the Lutheran Campus Ministry in Greater Pittsburgh. In addition, she served as co-chair of a capital campaign for renovation of the Lutheran University Center in Pittsburgh and chaired a fundraising campaign marking the 20-year anniversary of the Pittsburgh Compline Choir, an ecumenical choir that sings each Sunday evening in Heinz Chapel on the University of Pittsburgh campus.

Jane would like the opportunity to work with the other Library trustees to help and support the librarian in her continuing efforts to make the Bushnell-Sage Library a model for small community libraries in the state.

John Wightman

John Wightman is running for Bushnell-Sage Library trustee.

John has supported the Bushnell Sage Library since moving to Sheffield in 1998, shelving books there every week.



John was born in Colorado and grew up in Pennsylvania and Michigan. He received a BA from Carleton College in Minnesota, an M Div from Union Theological Seminary in New York and a D Min from Drew Divinity School in New Jersey. He was

ordained by the United Church of Christ in 1962 and served congregations in Virginia, Michigan and New Jersey. In 1998 he and his wife, Marilyn, moved to Sheffield, where he continued as an interim minister in congregations in Hadley, Pittsfield and New Marlborough. He retired in 2008. He has three adult children and four grandchildren.

Since moving to Sheffield, John has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Sheffield Land Trust, serving as president for nine years. He has been a member of Old Parish Church, where he currently serves as the clerk and historian, and chaired the search committee for a new pastor. He is a writer for the Sheffield Times and serves on the Sheffield Association board. He has served six years on the Church and Ministry Committee of the Berkshire Association of the United Church of Christ, four years as chairman, and teaches boundary awareness in the western area of Massachusetts.

John is eager to use his skills to support and strengthen this unique and outstanding library. His goals for the Library are to work with the Library Director, the Library Board and the Friends of the Library to continue making the Library a true community center with programs and offerings for people of all ages and diverse interests. He believes that a library is a valuable community resource, offering services and materials that would not be available otherwise, particularly during times of shrinking resources.

SUPPORT THE SHEFFIELD TIMES, YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER!

Help us mail this special issue to all in town so Sheffield votes can be informed voters!

Yes, I want to support the Sheffield Times!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other amount _____
made payable to the Sheffield Association, P.O. Box 1339, Sheffield, MA 01257

Name: _____
(as you would like it to appear in acknowledgments)

Address: _____ S _____
(where you would like issues mailed to you)

Email: _____

☐ I'd like my contribution to remain anonymous

☐ I'd like to get more involved with the Sheffield Times

☐ I am particularly interested in or have experience with _____

The Sheffield Times is provided free of charge at public distribution sites throughout Sheffield and Ashley Falls. We will mail issues for a year to everyone who makes a donation unless you tell us otherwise. Please check here if you do not want issues mailed to you: ☐

The Sheffield Association is a nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



Sheffield TIMES

Community Newsletter for
Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA
P.O. Box 1339
Sheffield, MA 01257
sheffieldtimes@hotmail.com

PRSR STD
AUTO
U S POSTAGE
PAID
SHEFFIELD, MA
PERMIT NO 4

☞ Bring your own
canoe or kayak!

MAY 7

11 AM - 3 PM

Come celebrate the new
**COVERED BRIDGE
PARK**

Live music ☞ Food ☞ Face painting

Raffle for Sheffield-made canoe

Art ☞ Poetry

☞ Arrival of Source to Sound paddlers

☞ Dedication of park, river access and 'sitting
stone' in honor of Housatonic River Summer 2004
....and lots more!

Walk down Covered Bridge Lane, opposite the American
Legion Hall on Rt. 7. Parking at Salisbury Bank and Shef-
field Senior Center. Transport for canoes/kayaks provided.

For more information, contact the Housatonic Valley Association
at 413-394-9796. Funding for this event is provided by the Dr. Robert
C. & Tina Sohn Foundation and the Salisbury Bank.

DO YOUR PART!

Sheffield's Annual Town Meeting

Monday, May 2, 7pm

Mt. Everett Regional High School

Sheffield's Town Election

Monday, May 9, 7am to 7pm

Sheffield's new Senior Center

WATCH FOR THE
MAY/JUNE ISSUE
of the
SHEFFIELD TIMES

It will be out in early May. Issues are mailed to those
who contribute—see page 7. It's available FREE at Town
Hall, the Library, the Ashley Falls Post Office and at
shops and stores around town.